

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE: DAVOL, INC./C.R. BARD, INC.,  
POLYPROPYLENE HERNIA MESH  
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

Case No. 2:18-md-2846

JUDGE EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.  
Magistrate Judge Kimberly A. Jolson

This document relates to:  
*Bryan v. C.R. Bard, Inc., et al.*  
Case No. 2:18-cv-1440

**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 48**

**Pretrial and Trial Schedule for Fourth Bellwether Trial Case**

On August 17, 2022, the Court selected *Bryan v. C.R. Bard, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 2:18-cv-1440, as the fourth Bellwether Trial Case that will be tried in this multidistrict litigation.

The pre-trial schedule for this case is as follows:

**I. TRIAL AND FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCES**

**A. Trial**

1. The fourth Bellwether Trial Case is scheduled for trial on **April 8, 2024**, at 9:00 A.M.<sup>1</sup> in Courtroom 311.
2. Unless otherwise notified by the Court, trial counsel shall meet in the chambers of Judge Sargus at 8:30 A.M. on each day of the trial.
3. The first week of each trial will consist of 5 days of trial, or Monday through Friday. In the following weeks trial will be held Monday through Thursday, for a maximum of 4 trial days each week. Excluding voir dire, preliminary and final jury instructions, and opening and closing arguments, each side will be allowed 30 hours of trial time for the presentation of testimony and any time spent cross-examining the other side's witnesses. Time spent on objections, unless otherwise noted, will not count against either side's time.

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<sup>1</sup> All times listed in this Order are in Eastern Time.

## B. Final Pretrial Conferences

1. The first final pretrial conference shall be held on **March 26, 2024**, at 9:00 A.M. in the chambers of Judge Sargus. All trial counsel must appear.
2. The second final pretrial conference shall be held on **March 27, 2024**, at 9:00 A.M. in the chambers of Judge Sargus. All trial counsel must appear.
  - a. The Court will resolve any objections to the deposition designations and objections to the exhibits at that time.
  - b. Attached to this CMO is the Court's Final Pretrial Order ("CMO 48-A"). The parties shall jointly submit CMO 48-A on or before **March 21, 2024**.

## II. DISCOVERY

### A. Case-Specific Fact Discovery Deadlines

1. Based on the current trial date and understanding of Plaintiff's medical situation, each party anticipates taking up to five additional case-specific fact depositions, not including any supplemental depositions of a prior deponent to address events since his or her prior deposition. Case-specific fact discovery is to be completed by October 23, 2023, however, given the need for updated medical records as of the date of this Order, the parties will meet-and-confer to the extent additional depositions are necessary after this date.

### B. Expert Discovery Deadlines

1. The parties agree that generic expert reports from MDL 2846, although not previously captioned or served in the *Bryan* case, may be adopted in this case as these experts had the opportunity to opine on generic issues related to the 3DMax and Defendants' conduct. The parties will serve a list of generic expert reports they plan to adopt in the *Bryan* case by **October 1, 2023**.<sup>2</sup> No new depositions of generic experts will be allowed absent agreement of the parties or leave of the Court.
2. Plaintiff shall serve his case-specific expert disclosures and reports by **November 30, 2023**. At this time, Plaintiff will also provide at least two available deposition dates for each designated expert.
3. Defendants shall serve their case-specific expert disclosures and reports by **December 14, 2023**. At this time, Defendants will also provide at least two available deposition dates for each designated expert.

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<sup>2</sup> If a "generic" expert was previously disclosed in an MDL 2846 case but has additional opinions specific to this case and/or device, then deadlines related to that report are governed by Section II(B)(2) of this Order.

4. Case-specific expert discovery, including depositions, to be completed by **January 10, 2024**. **To the extent possible, all case-specific Plaintiff's experts, as well as any of Plaintiff's experts with expanded generic opinions, will be deposed prior to the depositions of case-specific Defense experts.**

### III. DAUBERT MOTIONS

#### A. Deadlines for Generic Experts

1. *Daubert* or other motions concerning any generic expert described in II.B.1. above (hereafter "generic expert motions") are to be filed by **January 12, 2024**.<sup>3</sup>
2. Opposition papers to generic expert motions are to be filed by **January 26, 2024**.
3. Reply papers to generic expert motions are to be filed by **February 2, 2024**.
4. Oral argument on generic expert motions may be held at the discretion of the Court.
5. Pursuant to Case Management Order No. 26-A (Case No. 18-md-2846, ECF No. 345), the parties must file any Motion to Temporarily Seal **at least one full business day prior to filing the underlying brief**, but earlier if practicable, and contemporaneously email a courtesy copy of the Motion to Temporarily Seal to chambers.

#### B. Deadlines for Case-Specific Experts

1. *Daubert* or other motions concerning any case-specific expert (hereinafter "case-specific expert motions") are to be filed by **January 12, 2024**.
2. Opposition papers to case-specific expert motions are to be filed by **January 26, 2024**.
3. Reply papers to case-specific expert motions are to be filed by **February 2, 2024**.
4. Oral argument on case-specific expert motions may be held at the discretion of the Court.
5. Pursuant to Case Management Order No. 26-A (Case No. 18-md-2846, ECF No. 345), the parties must file any Motion to Temporarily Seal **at least one**

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<sup>3</sup> The parties shall incorporate by reference any arguments previously made and will endeavor to limit briefing to only new arguments.

full business day prior to filing the underlying brief, but earlier if practicable, and contemporaneously email a courtesy copy of the Motion to Temporarily Seal to chambers.

#### IV. DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS

##### A. Deadlines

1. Dispositive motions are to be filed by **January 12, 2024**.
2. Opposition papers to dispositive motions are to be filed by **January 26, 2024**.
3. Reply papers to dispositive motions are to be filed by **February 2, 2024**.
4. Oral argument on dispositive motions may be held at the discretion of the Court.

#### V. WITNESS LISTS

##### A. Deadlines

1. Plaintiff shall serve his witness list by **December 15, 2023**.
2. Defendants shall serve their witness list by **December 22, 2023**.

##### B. Procedures

1. Witnesses not included on a party's witness list shall not be called at trial in a party's case-in-chief absent agreement by the parties or a showing of good cause as to why the witness was not included on the witness list. The parties will use good faith efforts to list persons whom they actually intend to call at trial (live or by deposition) based upon on a good faith best current intentions "will call" list, and persons whom they currently believe are unlikely to be called but may be called on a "may call" list. The parties shall also use good faith efforts to state whether each proposed witness will be called live, or by deposition.

#### VI. DEPOSITION DESIGNATIONS

##### A. Deadlines

1. The parties shall serve page/line designations of the deposition testimony from the top ten (or less) depositions that each party anticipates playing in its case by **January 26, 2024**.

2. As to the witnesses timely designated by the opposing parties, the parties shall serve (a) page/line counter-designations of deposition testimony; and (b) objections to other party's page/line deposition designations by **February 9, 2024**.
3. As to the witnesses timely designated by the opposing parties, the parties shall serve (a) page/line counter-counter designations of deposition testimony; and (b) objections to the other parties' page/line deposition counter- designations by **February 16, 2024**.
4. As to the witnesses timely designated by the opposing parties, the parties shall serve objections to the other parties' page/line counter-counter-designations by **February 23, 2024**.
5. For any deposition taken on or after January 26, 2024, any affirmative page/line designations are due one week after the receipt of the final deposition transcripts, objections and counter-designations are due one week after the affirmative page/line designations are delivered, objections and counter-counter-designations are due one week after the objections and counter-designations are delivered, and objections to counter-counter designations are due five days after the counter-counter designations are delivered. Transcripts for depositions taken on or after January 26, 2024, must be ordered on an expedited basis.
6. All page/line designations, counter-designations, counter-counter-designations, and objections shall be exchanged by the parties in an Excel format to be agreed on by the parties.
7. After the exchange of the foregoing materials, the parties shall confer in an attempt to resolve any objections by **March 1, 2024**.

#### **B. Due to Court**

On a rolling basis, the parties shall submit to the Court the complete designations and unresolved objections for timely designated witnesses that remain after the parties' meet-and-conferral process, **with all designations and objections to be submitted to the Court no later than March 8, 2024, at 5:00 P.M.** The submission shall be in same format that was done for the *Milanesi* trial; specifically, a complete "run report" of all live designations with brief "bubble comments" for live objections and responses thereto. With each submission, the parties shall attach the exhibits referenced in any designated testimony.

## VII. EXHIBIT LISTS

### A. Deadlines

1. The parties shall mark their documentary or physical evidence in advance of trial. These exhibits shall comport with all of the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(3)(A).
2. Plaintiff shall serve his exhibit list in a format to be agreed by the parties, which shall include all document production numbers (*i.e.*, all known bates numbers, if applicable) and/or a description of the document (if there is no bates number) by **February 9, 2024**. An electronic copy of the exhibits shall also be provided on or before **February 12, 2024**, in a format to be agreed by the parties. Demonstrative exhibits shall be shown to opposing counsel before being displayed to the jury.
3. Defendants shall serve their exhibit list in a format to be agreed by the parties, which shall include all document production numbers (*i.e.*, all known bates numbers, if applicable) or a description of the document (if there is no bates number), by **February 16, 2024**. An electronic copy of the exhibits shall also be provided by **February 19, 2024**, in a format to be agreed by the parties. Defendants shall serve any objections to Plaintiff's exhibit list by **February 19, 2024**.
4. Plaintiff may serve any objections to Defendants' exhibit list by **March 1, 2024**, at 9:00 A.M.
5. The parties shall have the right to supplement their exhibit list(s) in light of any and all ongoing discovery.

### B. Due to Court

All unresolved objections on exhibits must be submitted to the Court by **March 8, 2024**, at 9:00 A.M., along with copies of the exhibits to which there are unresolved objections in a three-ringed, tabbed notebook.

The Court strongly encourages the parties to utilize the electronic courtroom technology for presentation of evidence. The parties shall report to the Court, by joint submission, on or before the date of the first final pretrial conference, their intent to use the technology. If the parties are not utilizing the Court's complete electronic technology, they shall present their exhibits by using the document cameras (ELMOs) located at counsel tables. The parties shall

provide copies of the exhibits to the Court as used during trial and are not required to submit copies to the Court before trial, other than the exhibits to which there are unresolved objections.

The parties are directed to stipulate to the exhibits for which they have no objections in advance of trial to the furthest extent possible. A joint proposed stipulation and order regarding these exhibits must be submitted to the Court one week after the second final pretrial conference.

### **C. Exhibits During Trial**

At trial, counsel may not approach a witness to tender an exhibit. Rather, the Courtroom Deputy will place each exhibit before each witness. In formulating a question to a witness, counsel shall clearly specify the exhibit number or designation involved to ensure a clear trial record. Exhibits introduced for the first time must be displayed to opposing counsel. Counsel shall be prepared to provide copies of such exhibits to opposing counsel, the Court, and the witness.

The parties shall also provide to the Courtroom Deputy each morning a list of exhibits that the witnesses plan to testify to during that day of trial.

## **VIII. MOTIONS *IN LIMINE***

### **A. Deadlines**

1. Motions *in limine* shall be filed by **February 2, 2024**.
2. Responses in opposition to motions *in limine* shall be filed by **February 16, 2024**.
3. No reply is permitted without leave of the Court, and only then for good cause.
4. No motions *in limine* may be filed after February 2, 2024, unless (1) they are based on new discovery or developments since February 2, 2024, and could not have been filed before that time, (2) the parties first confer on the necessity and timeliness of such motions, and (3) the Court grants leave to file the motion after being informed of the basis of the late motion, the reason it could not be filed by the February 2, 2024 deadline, and the position of the

adverse party.

## **B. Procedures**

1. The following apply to all motions *in limine*:
  - a. Index to motions *in limine*: If filing more than one motion *in limine*, the party shall submit to the Court and to the opposing party an “Index to Motions *in Limine*.”
  - b. Attachments to motions *in limine*: If filing a motion *in limine* seeking an evidentiary ruling on a category of documents, testimony, or argument the party shall attach to the motion *in limine* the documents or testimony on which it seeks a pretrial ruling. A party responding shall attach any document or testimony that it deems is necessary for the Court to fully consider the evidentiary issue presented.
  - c. Page limitation for motions *in limine*: Individual motions *in limine* shall be limited to 10 double-spaced pages and replies shall be limited to 6 double-spaced pages, absent leave of the Court.
  - d. The moving party must indicate in any motion *in limine* whether the Court ruled on the issue previously and, if so, how the Court ruled, and whether the moving party is seeking to preserve the issue for appeal or whether it is seeking a different ruling because of new or different circumstances, a change in controlling law, or other good cause.

## **IX. VOIR DIRE**

The parties shall exchange proposed voir dire questions by **March 1, 2024**. The parties shall submit their proposed voir dire questions and any objections to the other parties’ voir dire questions to the Court by 9:00 A.M. on **March 25, 2024**.

The whole panel of prospective jurors (*i.e.*, those in the jury box and those seated in the rear of the courtroom) will be examined collectively. The Court will conduct some of the voir dire examination.

After voir dire, the Court will consider challenges for cause and peremptory challenges. Each prospective juror is assigned a number by the Clerk’s Office. A list of the jurors’ names and numbers is available to counsel prior to the commencement of trial. When challenging a



juror, counsel should refer to the juror by name and number.

Counsel will not be permitted to question jurors individually regarding background information. This information is contained in juror questionnaires which will be on file in the Clerk's Office. Counsel should examine these forms prior to the commencement of trial. Counsel should contact the Court's Law Clerk, Ashlee Riner, who can be reached at (614) 719-3253 or Ashlee\_Riner@ohsd.uscourts.gov, to arrange access to juror questionnaires.

Because of the estimated length of this trial, an additional questionnaire to be sent to the jury pool. The main question in this questionnaire will be whether the juror can serve for the length of the trial. The Court will entertain additional questions the parties propose to be included in the questionnaire.

## **X. JURY INSTRUCTIONS**

### **A. Jury Instructions from the Court**

The Court will prepare preliminary and general jury instructions. The parties may obtain an example of the Court's general instructions from the Court's Law Clerk, Ashlee Riner. The parties shall concentrate their efforts on the case-specific instructions.

### **B. Proposed Jury Instructions from the Parties**

The parties shall submit jointly one set of proposed jury instructions which contains the parties agreed upon case-specific instructions, and, in the event the parties cannot agree on an instruction, each party's own individual proposed case-specific instruction. To this end, counsel shall adhere to the following procedures:

1. The parties shall serve their proposed jury instructions on each other on or before **March 1, 2024**.
2. Counsel then shall meet, confer and agree on proposed case-specific jury instructions.
3. If, after a concerted good faith effort, the parties are unable to agree upon a

particular case-specific instruction, each party shall propose its own version. Plaintiff's version shall be presented first, immediately followed by Defendants' version of the jury instructions, complete with pinpoint citations to binding authority. Each version, Plaintiff's and Defendants', shall appear together on one page for ready comparison. Versions of longer instructions (over one page) shall appear one after another. A party may indicate its general objection to the giving of the proposed instruction.

4. Proposed case-specific jury instructions shall be submitted to the Court on or before **April 1, 2024**.

All instructions shall be concise, understandable and neutral. Further, counsel shall at a minimum agree on a common index and the proposed instructions from all parties shall correspond to the index.

## **XI. MODIFICATION**

The parties may by agreement modify the dates within this CMO that affect only the parties. All deadlines established for submissions to the Court may only be modified for good cause and with the permission of the Court.

## **XII. ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES**

### **A. Jury**

Any prospective juror may be challenged for cause. Each party shall be entitled to three (3) peremptory challenges. 28 U.S.C. § 1870. The parties will exercise their peremptory challenges alternately with the plaintiff exercising the first challenge. If either party "passes," that challenge will be counted as used.

In most civil cases the Court will seat a jury of eight (8) members. In accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 48, all jurors shall participate in the verdict unless excused pursuant to Rule 47(c). Unless the parties otherwise stipulate, the verdict shall be unanimous.

### **B. Trial Procedure**

Trial will commence each day at 9:00 A.M. The Court will take one mid-morning break,

one lunch break, and one mid-afternoon break each day.

**C. Disclosure of Live Witnesses**

Unless the parties agree otherwise, given the nature of this trial, including the extraordinary amount of documents and preparation, disclosure of live witnesses to be called to testify, and expected order, shall be made 24 hours in advance of the witness testifying.

Any new witness for a Monday shall be disclosed on Friday before 9:00 P.M. The parties shall use good faith efforts to notify opposing counsel of witnesses to be presented by deposition designations 24 hours in advance of their use at trial, but the intent of this is not to preclude a party from utilizing a deposition designation if time allows for such use during the natural progression of the trial.

**D. Other Matters**

This Order supersedes all previous orders in this case to the extent previous orders are inconsistent with this Order.

The parties shall address questions about this Order to the Court's Law Clerk, Ashlee Riner. When calling or emailing, please have counsel for all parties participating or with fewer than all counsel participating with express permission of non-participating counsel.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

11/21/2023  
DATE

s/Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.  
EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE